



Sheriff Charles E. Jett

Stafford County Sheriff's Office

A State Accredited Law Enforcement Agency



December 15, 2014

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554
Federal Communications Commission

RE: PS Docket No. 07-114, 9-1-1 Location Accuracy

Commissioners:

I am writing to you today regarding Virginia's plan to improve emergency location technology. Prior to 2002, Virginia 9-1-1 centers did not possess the ability to identify caller location via cell phone. Since then, countless lives have been saved thanks to the ability of 9-1-1 centers to triangulate a caller's location via cell phone. This information has proved helpful in emergencies and currently the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requires that all calls made to 9-1-1 have the latitude and longitude of the call be transmitted to the appropriate calling center.

As technology has advanced so has our ability to accurately pin-point the location of a 9-1-1 call. We are on the cusp of having the ability to not only accurately pinpoint the latitude and longitude of a call but the ability to provide a vertical location for a call coming from inside of a multistoried building. In February of this year, the FCC set forth rules with specific criterion and encouraged industry and public safety officials to work together on a plan that would allow first responders efficient and reliable access to this invaluable information.

Using the FCC criterion as a guide, public safety officials specifically, Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) and National Emergency Number Association (NENA), along with wireless providers across the country came up with an ambitious six year plan that far exceeds the goals set forth by the FCC. For example the current plan will use already proven technologies such as Bluetooth and Wi-Fi to determine a specific address or clear location first responders can be sent. This was not included in the original criterion by the FCC. However the most impressive part of the plan to improve 9-1-1 accuracy may be the timeline, within two years 40% of all wireless 9-1-1 calls will be able to pin-pointed to a location and 80% of all VoLTE wireless 9-1-1 calls will be covered by year six.

There currently are alternatives to this plan, vendors that claim to also be able to find a caller's precise location but there is a concern that the technology use by some of these companies is unproven. In emergency situations our first responders need effective and proven technology.

Our public officials have come up with a diverse and reliable plan that will immensely help our first responders and save lives. I support the plan set forth by public safety and industry officials to use proven technology to improve 9-1-1 location accuracy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles E. Jett".

Charles E. Jett
Sheriff